

Engage 2025: A Strategic Initiative of World Outreach and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

History of Engage 2025

A few years ago mission leaders gathered to consider the remaining task of taking the gospel to the Muslim world. 247 Muslim ethnic groups were identified as untouched with the gospel. Leaders began, by prayer and faith, to divide the remaining work. By faith, EPC World Outreach committed to start teams among ten of these unengaged people groups by the year 2025. This cannot be done unless we as a denomination believe this is possible and make strides to walk in that belief.

What is an Unengaged People Group?

An **Unreached People Group** is defined as an ethnic group with too few Christians to evangelize their own people without outside assistance, or those ethnic groups with less than 2% evangelical Christian population.

An **Unengaged People Group** is not only unreached but has no church, no believers and no existing outreach of any kind to reach the people for the gospel.

Forgotten Peoples

What do Rawas, Musi, Lembak and Lintang have in common? For one, they are similar to the Pegangan and Penesak and Enim. More significant, they are all ethnic groups in South Sumatra who have never enjoyed a witness for Christ. No attempt to reach them with the gospel has ever entered their region.

Who are these people? By identity the people are Muslim with a strong underlying belief in an intermediate spirit world. Islam entered the region for trade after Buddhist and Hindu kingdoms existed. They are relatively receptive to foreigners, but live in an area few outsiders have reason to visit. The peoples live off the beaten path from current Christian outreach.

Presbytery of the West

Here in the Presbytery of the West, a willing family has stepped forward with an interest to serve in Indonesia. An area in South Sumatra has been identified as a place to begin. Churches within the Presbytery of the West have joined together to send this family, to raise up a team to join them, and to work together to support the team through prayer, missionary care, and staying alert and aware of how God is working there. Churches within the South Sumatra Partnership believe that every resource needed to be intentional in planting new indigenous churches exists, or will exist as God provides, within the churches God is calling to participate.